

From: ["Washburn, Ben" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE:GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FDA03CBA30C542059E0AF4208DAD96DA-WASHBURN.BEN>](mailto:Ben.Washburn@FDA03CBA30C542059E0AF4208DAD96DA-WASHBURN.BEN)  
To: ["R7 Daily Digest" <Group>](#)  
CC:  
Date: 8/26/2014 3:50:23 PM  
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 8/26/14

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#### **OPA Daily Digest for 8/26/14**

#### **Congressional Inquiries:**

None

#### **State Government Inquiries:**

**Sen. Gary Romine** – Email – 8/21/14: Requesting briefing for the Missouri Lead Industry Employment, Economic Development & Environmental Remediation Task Force on 9/9/14. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (open)

#### **Press Inquiries:**

**Greenwire** – Tiffany Stecker – 8/1/14: Requesting interview with RA for profile piece about EPA's relationship with agriculture community. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (open)

**Inside EPA** – Lee Logan – 8/8/14: Inquired about RA's speech at the Greenhouse Gas Strategy Forum on Clean Power Plan. Contact: David Bryan, 7433 (open)

**Chillicothe (Mo.) Constitution-Tribune** – Britney Tutt – 8/26/14: Questions about bedbugs. Interviewed Mark Leshner of Region 7 WWP/TOPE. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

**Joplin Globe** – Wally Kennedy – 8/26/14: Questions about Tyson investigation in Monet, Mo. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (open)

#### **Environmental Stories:**

**KWMU St. Louis Public Radio - Suit Dismissed That Alleged West Lake Landfill's Radiation Had Spread** - 8/25/14 - At the behest of the man who had filed the suit, a U.S. District Court has dismissed a suit that had alleged the radiation from the West Lake Landfill had spread into surrounding neighborhoods.

<http://news.stlpublicradio.org/post/suit-dismissed-alleged-west-lake-landfills-radiation-had-spread>

**Iowa City Press Citizen - Iowa farm groups to support water quality alliance** - 8/25/14 - Three Iowa farm groups launched a new group Monday charged with accelerating

the pace and scale of water-quality improvements across the state. The farm groups tapped Sean McMahon, who leads the Nature Conservancy's North American agriculture program, to lead the initiative. <http://www.press-citizen.com/story/news/local/2014/08/25/iowa-farm-groups-support-water-quality-alliance/14602257/>

**Iowa Farm Bureau (release) - Iowa Ag Water Alliance to accelerate pace, scale of water quality improvement** - 8/25/2014 - Accelerating the pace and scale of quantifiable water quality improvements in Iowa is the mission of the Iowa Agriculture Water Alliance (IAWA) launched today by agricultural and environmental stakeholders at a news conference in Des Moines. <http://www.iowafarmbureau.com/articles/126098/iowa-ag-water-alliance-to-accelerate-pace-scale-of-water-quality-improvement>

**Lincoln Journal-Star - Governor calls EPA 'enemy of agriculture'** - 8/25/14 - Gov. Dave Heineman on Monday called the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency the "enemy of agriculture" and said the federal agency is the biggest regulatory issue facing Nebraska producers. [http://journalstar.com/business/agriculture/governor-calls-epa-enemy-of-agriculture/article\\_d3dd7794-f7be-5188-b826-634bb8d0916c.html](http://journalstar.com/business/agriculture/governor-calls-epa-enemy-of-agriculture/article_d3dd7794-f7be-5188-b826-634bb8d0916c.html)

**KIMT Ch. 3 Mason City, Iowa - Nitrates found in drinking water** - 8/25/14 - The Mitchell County Care Facility was just recently cited by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for having high nitrate levels in their water. While those nitrates can have the greatest impact on infants and pregnant women, those in the county say the problem needs to be fixed now. <http://kimt.com/2014/08/25/nitrates-found-in-drinking-water/>

**The City Wire (Fort Smith, Ark.) - Tyson Foods' Missouri problem risks millions in government contracts** - 8/25/14 - Tyson Foods could lose around \$500 million in government contracts if found guilty in an ongoing criminal probe by the Environmental Protection Agency over the recent release of toxic chemicals at a plant in Monett, Mo. <http://www.thecitywire.com/node/34383>

**The Hill - States: EPA climate regs illegally left out data** - 8/25/14 - The attorneys general from 13 states told the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that its proposed rule in June to reduce carbon pollution from power plants broke the law by omitting supporting information. <http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/215917-states-epa-climate-regs-illegally-left-out-data>

**KSN Ch. 3 Wichita, Kan. - Concern grows over contaminated groundwater in West Wichita** - 8/25/13 - When people first heard about the contamination of well water in some areas of west Wichita, the response was a reasonable one: concern, for their health and for their property. Now, residents nearby are hoping to get the ball rolling on a switch over to city water as well, even though contamination hasn't spread to them. <http://ksn.com/2014/08/25/concern-grows-over-contaminated-groundwater-in-w-wichita/>

**KOAM Ch. 7 Pittsburg/Joplin - The city of Neodesha loses bid to retry lawsuit against BP** - 8/25/14 - More than 10 years ago, the city of Neodesha filed a lawsuit against BP claiming the company should provide more industrial cleanup from a closed oil refinery. A county jury returned a verdict in favor of BP. Now, city has lost its bid to retry the lawsuit. <http://www.koamtv.com/story/26366700/the-city-of-neodesha-loses-bid-to-retry-lawsuit-against-bp>

**Wichita Eagle - Coffeyville refinery to restart this week after fire** - 8/25/14 - The Coffeyville refinery will restart operations this week after a fire shut it down on July 29. The Coffeyville Resources Refining & Marketing refinery, owned by CVR Refining of Sugar Land, Texas, stopped operations after the fire in its isomerization unit. <http://www.kansas.com/news/business/article1291740.html>

**Des Moines Register - Concern raised about Ankeny water** - 8/25/14 - The City of Ankeny's water distribution system is in violation of a drinking water standard, according to a city press release issued Monday. Although not characterized as any sort of emergency, testing results received by the city on Aug. 11 show the maximum level for total Trihalomethanes, or TTHM, were exceeded. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/local/ankeny/2014/08/25/ankeny-waterworks/14580159/>

NOTE: Paywall issues may keep you from seeing this article. Full text is included at the end of this email.

**St. Louis Business Journal - MSD buys property near River Des Peres for stormwater runoff initiative** - 8/25/14 - MSD said in a statement that it would tear down part of the 60-year-old building, which is situated near River Des Peres, to make way for MSD Project Clear. That initiative involves building underground tunnels to store rain runoff during heavy storms then transport it to wastewater treatment plants. <http://www.bizjournals.com/stlouis/news/2014/08/25/msd-buys-property-near-river-des-peres-for.html>

**Des Moines Register - Bakken pipeline meetings in Iowa moved to December** - 8/25/14 - Energy Transfer Partners, which is planning a 1,100-mile crude oil pipeline that would cross through 17 Iowa counties, is pushing back its timetable for public information meetings on the project.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/politics/iowa-politics-insider/2014/08/25/iowa-bakken-crude-pipeline/14576927/>

NOTE: Paywall issues may keep you from seeing this article. Full text is included at the end of this email.

**Blog for Iowa - Iowa Bakken Backers Braking** - 8/26/14 - Energy Transfer Partners (ETP), the company proposing to build a transfer pipeline from the Bakken/Three Forks shale oil production area in North Dakota, has the financial resources to see the pipeline through to its completion, so opposition must get beyond generalities about the oil itself, misinformation and hyperbole to focus on what can possibly stop the pipeline. Property rights is one thing that may work.

<http://www.blogforiowa.com/2014/08/26/iowa-bakken-backers-braking/>

**KTIV Ch. 4 Sioux City, Iowa - Heineman highlights need for transportation to export ag products** - 8/25/14 - Ethanol was on the mind of Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman, Monday morning. The Republican expressed ongoing concern over how to get ethanol products out of the state.

<http://www.ktiv.com/story/26367059/2014/08/25/heineman-highlights-need-for-transportation-to-export-ag-products>

**WNAX Radio, Yankton S.D. - Nebraska Governor Calls EPA Ag's Biggest Enemy (audio)** - 8/26/14 - Nebraska Governor Heineman says agriculture's biggest opponent is the Environmental Protection Agency which has expanded its regulatory over reach and that's hurting the ag economy. State Ag Director Greg Ibach says EPA has expanded its authority against agriculture on several occasions. <http://wnax.com/news/180081-nebraska-governor-calls-epa-ag-biggest-enemy/>

**Farm Futures (blog) - Iowa Drainage District Pushes EPA to 'Ditch the Rule'** - 8/25/14 - During the week of August 18, 2014, I addressed the Iowa Drainage District Association regarding EPA's proposed definition of "Waters of the United States." The meeting in Ft. Dodge, Iowa, allowed farmland owners to learn about EPA's proposal. I found the attendees had done their homework on the EPA proposed rule. <http://farmfutures.com/blogs-iowa-drainage-district-pushes-epa-ditch-rule-8874>

**Wall Street Journal - Slow Going for Natural-Gas Powered Trucks | Premium Prices and More Efficient Diesels Leave Sales in First Gear (+audio)** - 8/25/14 - In the midst of the strongest market for commercial trucks in eight years, North American sales of natural-gas-powered haulers are just crawling along.

<http://online.wsj.com/articles/natural-gas-trucks-struggle-to-gain-traction-1408995745>

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**Christian Science Monitor - Climate change policies pay for themselves, study says** - 8/25/14 - An MIT climate change study released Sunday indicates the cost of slashing coal-fired carbon emissions would be offset by reduced spending on public health. The EPA-funded study examined climate change policies similar to those proposed by the Obama administration in June. <http://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/Energy-Voices/2014/0825/Climate-change-policies-pay-for-themselves-study-says>

**Yale Environment 360 - Health Care Savings Can Far Outweigh Costs of Carbon-Cutting Policies** - 8/25/14 - Implementing policies to curb carbon emissions dramatically cuts health care costs associated with poor air quality — in some cases, by more than 10 times the cost of policy implementation, according to new research published in Nature Climate Change. [http://e360.yale.edu/digest/health\\_care\\_savings\\_can\\_far\\_outweigh\\_costs\\_of\\_carbon-cutting\\_policies/4229/](http://e360.yale.edu/digest/health_care_savings_can_far_outweigh_costs_of_carbon-cutting_policies/4229/)

**Greenwire - Health benefits offset costs of climate policies -- MIT study** - 8/25/14 - Savings due to avoided health problems help offset -- and in some cases greatly outweigh -- the costs of carbon dioxide-cutting policies in the United States, according to a new study. <http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1060004866>

**MIT News - Study: Cutting emissions pays for itself** - 8/24/14 - Savings from healthier air can make up for some or all of the cost of carbon-reduction policies. Lower rates of asthma and other health problems are frequently cited as benefits of policies aimed at cutting carbon emissions from sources like power plants and vehicles, because these policies also lead to reductions in other harmful types of air pollution. <http://newsoffice.mit.edu/2014/cutting-carbon-health-care-savings-0824>

**Inside Climate - MIT Study: Climate Policies Slash Health Care Costs** - 8/26/14 - Massive savings to health-care spending can be had if governments implement a cap-and-trade carbon reduction program, say researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). <http://insideclimatenews.org/breaking-news/20140826/mit-study-climate-policies-slash-health-care-costs>

**Inhabitat - Cutting Carbon Emissions Will Pay for Itself, MIT Study Shows** - 8/26/14 - As politicians begin to use economic arguments to support cutting carbon emissions, a new study from MIT has confirmed that the flow-on health benefits of emissions reductions could save billions of dollars. <http://inhabitat.com/cutting-carbon-emissions-will-pay-for-itself-mit-study-shows/>

**Investor's Business Daily - Editorial: Why EPA Rules Often Cost More Than They Are Worth** - 8/25/14 - Environmental policy may be divisive, yet Americans all want a clean environment. The EPA uses unclear, questionable and outdated analysis, when it uses an analysis at all. Congress and the American public, meanwhile, may have little idea what the EPA is up to. <http://news.investors.com/ibd-editorials-perspective/082514-714661-epa-rules-often-a-result-of-politics-not-economics-or-common-sense.htm>

**ABC News - UN Panel: Global Warming Human-Caused, Dangerous** - 8/26/14 - A new international draft report says global warming is here, human-caused and can already be considered dangerous. The report warns that it is increasingly likely that climate change could be irreversible. <http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/panel-global-warming-human-caused-dangerous-25133004>

**Bloomberg - Irreversible Damage Seen From Climate Change in UN Leak** - 8/26/14 - Humans risk causing irreversible and widespread damage to the planet unless there's faster action to limit the fossil fuel emissions that cause climate change, according to a leaked draft United Nations report. <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-08-26/irreversible-damage-seen-from-climate-change-in-un-leak.html>

**Ecosystem Marketplace - Reason for Climate Change: Optimism As Forest Strategy Is Validated** - 8/26/14 - Results from a recent report made it official that indigenous peoples act as good land stewards and vital players in reducing deforestation and combating climate change. Financial mechanisms like REDD can aid indigenous peoples in preserving their land and mitigating climate change. <http://www.ecosystemmarketplace.com/pages/dynamic/article.page.php>

**Detroit News - Opinion: Should America lead on climate change?** - 8/26/14 - Next month, President Barack Obama is scheduled to attend a climate summit hosted by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to "galvanize and catalyze climate action." Undoubtedly, Obama will be touting recent successes in the policy arena of climate change and urging world leaders to follow our lead. Well, perhaps successes ought to be in quotes. <http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20140826/OPINION01/308260013>

**Washington Post - The Post's View: A climate for change: America should not wait while the world warms** - 8/25/14 - FOR MORE than a century, scientists have understood the basic physics of the greenhouse effect. For decades, they've realized humans can affect the climate by burning coal, oil and gas. But the country's leaders

remain divided on the need to curb greenhouse emissions, let alone how to do it. [http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/a-climate-for-change-america-should-not-wait-while-the-world-warms/2014/08/25/872bab64-2a00-11e4-86ca-6f03cbd15c1a\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/a-climate-for-change-america-should-not-wait-while-the-world-warms/2014/08/25/872bab64-2a00-11e4-86ca-6f03cbd15c1a_story.html)

**The Hill - GAO finds no fault with 'social cost of carbon'** - 8/25/14 - A government probe into the metric used by federal agencies to measure the "social cost of carbon" found no evidence that it was improperly developed, investigators said Monday. <http://thehill.com/regulation/215908-gao-finds-no-fault-with-social-cost-of-carbon>

**Midwest Energy News - Enbridge case reflects broader effort to fast-track pipelines** - 8/26/14 - As recently as two or three years ago, major cross-country pipelines typically did not begin construction until a federal environmental impact statement had been completed and found them acceptable. <http://www.midwestenergynews.com/2014/08/26/enbridge-case-reflects-broader-effort-to-fast-track-pipelines/>

**NBC News - Danger Beneath: 'Fracking' Gas, Oil Pipes Threaten Rural Residents** - 8/25/14 - A construction boom of pipelines carrying explosive oil and natural gas from "fracking" fields to market -- pipes that are bigger and more dangerous than their predecessors -- poses a safety threat in rural areas, where they sometimes run within feet or yards of homes with little or no safety oversight. <http://www.nbcnews.com/news/investigations/danger-beneath-fracking-gas-oil-pipes-threaten-rural-residents-n187021>

**New York Times - Grain Piles Up, Waiting for a Ride, as Trains Move North Dakota Oil** - 8/25/14 - The furious pace of energy exploration in North Dakota is creating a crisis for farmers whose grain shipments have been held up by a vast new movement of oil by rail, leading to millions of dollars in agricultural losses and slower production for breakfast cereal giants like General Mills. <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/08/26/us/grain-piles-up-waiting-for-a-ride-as-trains-move-north-dakota-oil.html>

**Brownfield Ag News - Prepare for increased grain storage** - 8/26/14 - The anticipated bumper crop of corn and soybeans has heightened the need for extra storage during harvest this fall. Missouri Ag Director Richard Fordyce says transportation is part of the issue, too, with oil activities going on up north. <http://brownfieldagnews.com/2014/08/26/prepare-for-increased-grain-storage/>

**The Atlantic - The Quest to Scan Millions of Weather Records** - 8/25/14 - Scientists are embarking on data rescue missions all over the world to find and digitize old climate information. <http://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2014/08/the-quest-to-scan-millions-of-weather-records/378962/>

**BNA - Fuel, Chemical Transporters, Offerors Would Benefit From Harmonizing Rule, PHMSA Says** - 8/25/14 - Transporters and offerors for substances ranging from fuels to medicinal products to chemicals would maintain a competitive edge through a series of labeling, categorization, listing and other revisions harmonizing domestic hazmat rules with international standards under a recently published federal proposal. [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=51951936&vname=denotallissues&jd=a0f5a7d4v2&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=51951936&vname=denotallissues&jd=a0f5a7d4v2&split=0)

**BNA - Changes Needed to Help U.S. Grid Adapt To Alternative Energy, Siemens Official Says** - 8/25/14 - Regulatory policy changes are needed to help the U.S. adapt to alternative energy sources and their effect on electrical grids, the vice president of Siemens Smart Grid for the U.S. and Canada told a gathering of state legislators. [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=51951922&vname=denotallissues&jd=a0f5a3t5z7&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=51951922&vname=denotallissues&jd=a0f5a3t5z7&split=0)

**BNA - Failure to Include Documents for Power Plant Rules Violated Clean Air Act, 13 States Say** - 8/25/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency violated the Clean Air Act when it failed to include all of its supporting materials for proposed carbon dioxide emissions standards for existing and modified power plants in the docket at the time the rule was published, 13 states said in an Aug. 25 letter to the agency. [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=51951932&vname=denotallissues&jd=a0f5a4z2a8&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=51951932&vname=denotallissues&jd=a0f5a4z2a8&split=0)

**BNA - Social Cost of Carbon Estimates Developed 'Consistent With Federal Standards,' GAO Finds** - 8/25/14 - The Obama administration's social cost of carbon estimates were developed "consistent with federal standards for internal control" and allowed ample opportunity for public comment, according to a Government Accountability Office report released Aug. 25. [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=51951926&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f5a4b6z5&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=51951926&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f5a4b6z5&split=0)

**BNA - Increased Pace of Security Plan Approvals Maintained Through July, DHS Reports** - 8/25/14 - The Department of Homeland Security approved 70 site security plans to reduce risks of hazardous material release, theft, diversion or sabotage at industrial facilities nationally during the month of July as the agency attempts to show it can sustain a quickened pace of approving the plans under its chemical security program. [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=51951920&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f5a3m6u7&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=51951920&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f5a3m6u7&split=0)

**BNA - Cross-State Rule's Remaining Challenges Wouldn't Require Vacatur, EPA Tells Court** - 8/25/14 - Pending legal challenges to the 2011 cross-state emissions rule for power plants would only require "some adjustment" to the regulation, not vacatur, if a federal appeals court were to rule in favor of industry and state petitioners, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=51951928&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f5a4v3g2&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=51951928&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f5a4v3g2&split=0)

**BNA - Japan to Experiment With Biomass In Capturing, Storing Carbon Dioxide** - 8/25/14 - Japan's Ministry of the Environment will experiment with capturing carbon dioxide from biomass power generation in fiscal 2015, as it readies carbon capture and storage (CCS) locations later this year, a ministry official told Bloomberg BNA. [http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=51951929&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f5a4w5b2&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=51951929&vname=dennotallissues&jd=a0f5a4w5b2&split=0)

**Inside EPA - Environmentalists Seek New 'Social Cost Of Methane' For Truck GHG Rule** - 8/25/14 - Environmentalists are urging the Obama administration to develop a new "social cost of methane" to assess the benefits of regulating greenhouse gases (GHGs) from trucks powered by natural gas. <http://cleanenergyreport.com/201408252480057/Clean-Energy-Report-Daily-News/News/environmentalists-seek-new-social-cost-of-methane-for-truck-ghg-rule/menu-id-202.html>

**Inside EPA - Industry Calls For New Finance Utilities To Cut Mississippi Basin Nutrients** - 8/26/14 - Agriculture and water utility groups are urging regulators to develop novel "watershed protection utilities" (WPU) that would collect and dispense financing for projects to reduce nutrient-reduction pollution in Mississippi River Basin states. <http://insideepa.com/201408262480095/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/industry-calls-for-new-finance-utilities-to-cut-mississippi-basin-nutrients/menu-id-95.html>

**Inside EPA - EPA Eyes Stricter Inspections, Hazard Guide To Meet Facility Safety Order** - 8/26/14 - EPA is boosting its procedures for how to inspect chemical facilities to ensure they are complying with security rules and is weighing guidance on alerting communities to high-hazard plants -- two major steps in meeting President Obama's executive order (E.O.) on bolstering plant security. <http://insideepa.com/201408262480096/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/epa-eyes-stricter-inspections-hazard-guide-to-meet-facility-safety-order/menu-id-95.html>

**Inside EPA - Groups Criticize EPA Proposal To Overhaul Human Health Water Criteria** - 8/25/14 - State regulators and water industry groups are criticizing EPA's new proposed methods for setting water quality criteria to protect human health as overly stringent and complex. <http://insideepa.com/Risk-Policy-Report/Risk-Policy-Report-08/26/2014/groups-criticize-epa-proposal-to-overhaul-human-health-water-criteria/menu-id-130.html>

**Inside EPA - States Urge EPA To Withdraw ESPS Over Missing Documents** - 8/25/14 - Thirteen state attorneys general (AGs) are calling on EPA to "immediately" withdraw its proposed greenhouse gas standards for existing power plants, as well as a companion rule for modified units. <http://insideepa.com/201408252480054/EPA-Blog/News-Briefs/states-urge-epa-to-withdraw-esps-over-missing-documents/menu-id-97.html>

**Inside EPA - 9th Circuit Ruling Limits Deference Given States In Superfund Settlements** - 8/25/14 - A federal appellate court in a 2-1 decision has ruled that Superfund consent decrees entered by state environmental agencies should not be given the same deference by courts as those reached by EPA.

<http://insideepa.com/201408252480012/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/9th-circuit-ruling-limits-deference-given-states-in-superfund-settlements/menu-id-95.html>

#### **Press Releases:**

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

#### **Fact Sheets:**

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

#### **Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:**

\* New additions noted with an asterisk

**\*8/26-27/14** – Farm Progress Show, Boone, Iowa. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

**9/3/14** – Office of Water Visit to Region 7, Regional Office. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

**9/10/14** - Kansas City Steel Redevelopment/Walmart Grand Opening, Kansas City, Kan. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

**9/10/14** – U.S. Health & Human Services Senior Leadership Meeting (Clean Power Plan), Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Curtis Carey, 7506

**9/14-17/14** – Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) Fall Meeting, Santa Fe, N.M. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**8/28/14** – The Nature Conservancy-Missouri Board of Trustees Reception, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**8/29/14** – Interview with Greenwire, Regional Office. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

**8/30/14** – Dedication Ceremony – Kickapoo Diabetes Walking/Running Trail, Horton, Kan. Contact: Patrick Bustos, 7969

**9/30/14** – Midwest Energy Policy Conference, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555

**10/9/14** – Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce Energy & Environmental Roundtable and Reception, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Dave Bryan, 7433

**10/10/14** – Nebraska State Bar Association, La Vista, Neb. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**DRA:**

**9/10/14** - Next Generation State Visit, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact: Kevin Barthol, 7XXX

**9/16/14** - Meet with Arthur Elkins, Office of Inspector General, Regional Office Contact: Renee McGhee-Lenart

**10/7/14** - Employee Appreciation Event, Regional Office contact: Monica Espinosa, 7XXX

**RA/Immediate Office**

None

**Other Events**

**AWMD**

None

**CNSL**

None

**ECO/EJ**

**9/30/14** – National EJ Coordinator’s Meeting in Washington, D.C. Contact: Tamara Freeman, 7094

**ENSV**

None

**PLMG**

None

**RA/OPA**

**9/29-30/14** - Healthy Schools Outreach, Missouri School Plant Managers’ Association Conference, Four Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. Contact: Kathleen Fenton, 7874

and Harry Diesel, 7382

## **SUPR**

**8/27/14** – West Central Missouri LEPC Meeting, Warrensburg, Mo. – Contact: Scott Hayes, 7670

## **WWPD**

**8/25-26/14** – State Revolving Fund Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Summit, Ankeny, Iowa. Contact: Christopher Simmons, 7237

**8/26-28/14** – Kansas Water Environment Association/Kansas Section, American Water Works Association Joint Conference, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Wayne Dillard, 7885

**9/8-11/14** – National EPA Small Systems Drinking Water Technical Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio. Contact: Stan Calow, 7410

**9/9/14** – Iowa Department of Natural Resources Drinking Water Program Meeting, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Neftali Hernandez-Santiago, 7036

**9/10-11/14** – Kansas Department of Health and Environment Geology Seminar presentations, Wichita, Kan. Contacts: David Garrett, 7159, Kurt Hildebrandt, 7413

**9/18-19/14** – Shell Creek Watershed Planning Meeting, Platte Center, Neb. Contact: Heather Duncan, 7640

## **Des Moines Register**

### **Concern raised about Ankeny water**

2:58 p.m. CDT August 25, 2014

The City of Ankeny's water distribution system is in violation of a drinking water standard, according to a city press release issued Monday. Although not characterized as any sort of emergency, testing results received by the city on Aug. 11 show the maximum level for total Trihalomethanes, or TTHM, were exceeded. The standard is 0.080 MG/L, while the average level of TTHM over the past year was 0.084 MG/L. This is the first such violation for the City of Ankeny's water distribution system.

The press release states that no alternative source of water is required because of the reading, which officials say is not an immediate risk. Trihalomethanes are one of the most common disinfection by-products, and they form when chlorine used for disinfection reacts with organic matter present in the water.

During the first quarter of 2014, Des Moines Water Works, which supplies the City of Ankeny's water, saw elevated levels of ammonia and total organic carbon in both the Des Moines River and Raccoon River. Disinfection with chlorine is more difficult when ammonia is present in source waters. Additional chlorine is required to eliminate the ammonia and obtain proper disinfection during the final stage of water treatment. For that reason, chlorine levels have been higher since early January 2014.

Currently, Des Moines Water Works is reviewing operational changes and evaluating potential capital investments in their water treatment system to reduce TTHM levels. Because this notice is based on a running annual average of the most recent four consecutive quarters, customers may receive similar notices in future quarters until the annual average falls below the standard.

For more information, please contact the City of Ankeny's Utility Customer Service Department by calling 515-965-6484 or by mailing Utility Customer Service, 220 W. First St., Ankeny, Iowa, 50023, or contact Des Moines Water Works Customer Service at 515-283-8700.

## **Wall Street Journal**

### **Slow Going for Natural-Gas Powered Trucks**

Premium Prices and More Efficient Diesels Leave Sales in First Gear

By BOB TITA CONNECT

Aug. 25, 2014 3:42 p.m. ET

In the midst of the strongest market for commercial trucks in eight years, North American sales of natural-gas-powered haulers are just crawling along.

Higher purchase prices compared with diesel trucks, improved diesel fuel economy and continued scarcity of fueling stations are damping natural-gas-powered truck demand. About 10,480 of the heavy-duty trucks are expected to be sold this year, up 20% from the 8,730 sold last year, according to Power Systems Research. However, some forecasters had expected sales to about double to 16,000 vehicles this year amid the trucking industry's enthusiasm for natural gas a year ago.

What happened? A big roadblock remains the premium for a heavy-duty gas truck—\$50,000 more than the about \$150,000 for a new diesel-powered truck. In theory, the payback for that higher price is recovered from fuel savings of between \$1.60 and \$1.70 for the gas equivalent of a gallon of diesel. Paybacks can average four years considering the average truck travels 125,000 miles a year.

But truckers say the fuel savings isn't all it seems. Mileage from a natural-gas-powered truck is about 20% less per energy equivalent than a diesel truck, meaning a gas truck consumes the same amount of fuel for 200 miles as a diesel truck uses for 240 miles. Moreover, fuel costs—as well as any natural-gas fuel savings—are typically passed on to a trucking company's customers.

"If you're paying \$1 per gallon less for fuel, they'd want that money for themselves, but you need that to pay off the equipment," said Mike Card, president of Combined Transport Inc., which operates a fleet of 500 diesel trucks specializing in hauling heavy or wide cargoes, such as wind energy towers.

At current fuel prices, it takes about four years to recover their investment. "That's tough for a lot of fleets. They want their investment returns a lot faster," said Mike DelBovo, transportation president of Saddle Creek Logistics Services in Lakeland, Fla., which has 175 gas-powered trucks in a fleet of 550.

Large fleet operators typically replace their vehicles every three to four years, leaving little time for them to benefit from the lower fuel costs of natural-gas-powered trucks.

Another factor limiting natural-gas-powered sales is the arrival on the market of new, more efficient diesel engines. The first phase of a federally mandated 6%

improvement in fuel economy by 2017 took effect this year, pushing heavy-duty truck mileage closer to 7 miles per gallon from about 6.5 mpg.

Indiana-based Cummins Inc. delayed indefinitely a 15-liter natural-gas engine for high horsepower long-distance trucks carrying heavy loads. And a joint venture with Vancouver's Westport Innovations Inc. also ceased production of a 15-liter natural gas engine last fall. That venture still makes smaller-size natural-gas engines used in cement trucks, garbage trucks and delivery vehicles that spend just a day on the road.

All this comes as the market for new commercial trucks is booming.

A stronger economy has pushed up freight volumes, and fleet replacements are expected to push production of heavy-duty trucks in North America this year up 21% from 2013 to 297,400 vehicles, the highest volume since 2006, said Columbus, Ind., market forecaster ACT Research LLC.

For-hire trucking companies such as Con-way Inc. and Schneider National Inc. say they continue to test small numbers of natural-gas trucks. But the limited number of natural-gas refueling stations limits the switch to gas. Just slightly more than half of the 1,500 natural-gas fueling stations in the U.S. are public-access sites, and not all of these can accommodate large trucks.

Kenny Vieth, president and senior analyst for ACT Research, which had forecast as much as a doubling of demand, said a key constraint has been "the need to build out the [gas fueling] infrastructure."

Of course, those trucking companies committed to using alternative fuels or that handle deliveries for customers looking for a greener profile are moving ahead on natural-gas vehicle acquisitions.

"There's not a huge savings today with natural gas," said Jeff Shefchik, president of Paper Transport Inc., 430-truck regional fleet Green Bay, Wis., with about 100 natural-gas trucks. "But we're content to invest in it because it's going to grow over time."

United Parcel Service Inc. this year has ordered about 300 gas-powered heavy-duty trucks and bought 700 gas tractors last year. The trucks operate mostly in corridors in the West and South that have plenty of natural-gas stations, some of which UPS helped to finance. By the end of the year, about 2% of UPS's 100,000 vehicles world-wide will be powered by natural gas.

Meanwhile, Wal-Mart Stores Inc., Office Depot Inc. and Lowe's Cos. and consumer products manufacturer Procter & Gamble are among the companies requesting their trucking suppliers use natural-gas vehicles to comply with corporate policies to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and pollution caused by burning diesel fuel.

Saddle Creek, which offers trucking to those retailers, is racking up 1.5 million miles a month on its 175-vehicle natural-gas fleet and plans to buy 25 additional Freightliner gas trucks by the end of the year.

Still, those purchases are dwarfed by the sheer number of new diesel-powered trucks being sold. North American sales of diesel-powered trucks are forecast to rise 17% to 281,620 this year.

Two years ago, forecasters expected as much as 20% of the heavy-duty trucks sold annually in North America by the end of the decade would be natural-gas powered.

"We're still growing [natural-gas-powered trucks], but all the hype is gone," said Robert Carrick, sales manager for natural gas for Freightliner, a unit of Germany's Daimler

AG. "Long-haul, over-the-road trucking is not going to adopt natural gas for a long time."

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## **Des Moines Register**

### **Bakken pipeline meetings in Iowa moved to December**

8/25/14

Energy Transfer Partners, which is planning a 1,100-mile crude oil pipeline that would cross through 17 Iowa counties, is pushing back its timetable for public information meetings on the project.

The public meetings, which will be held in each of the 17 Iowa counties, were expected to begin in late September and conclude in early October. They are now being moved to December to be respectful of the harvest season in Iowa and the Thanksgiving holiday, said Vicki Granado, spokeswoman for the Dallas pipeline company.

"We will continue to reach out to farming communities and community leaders along the proposed route to discuss the details of our project," Granado said. More information about the revised meeting schedule will be available as soon as the schedule is approved by the Iowa Utilities Board, she added.

Energy Transfer Partners is proposing the Dakota Access pipeline project to transport crude oil from the Bakken oil fields in North Dakota through South Dakota and Iowa to Patoka, Ill., which is east of St. Louis. Thousands of Iowa property owners have received letters from the company seeking permission to conduct surveys for the 30-inch-diameter underground pipeline, which would initially carry 320,000 barrels of crude oil daily.

If the utilities board approves the project, the company could use eminent domain to acquire easements on properties. Property owners would be compensated for the easements, although the amount of payments would vary from property to property. The pipeline is scheduled to be operational by late 2016.

Granado also released additional information on the depth the pipe would be buried as it crosses Iowa:

- The pipeline would be covered by a minimum of 36 inches of soil, more if it crossed under roads, rivers, lakes or streams.
- In agricultural fields, the pipe would be buried a minimum of 48 inches.
- All drain tiles would be crossed with a minimum 24-inch separation between the pipe and the tile.

The permanent easement would be 50 feet wide, but the temporary construction corridor would be 100 to 150 feet wide.

The affected counties would be Lyon, O'Brien, Sioux, Cherokee, Buena Vista, Calhoun, Webster, Boone, Story, Jasper, Polk, Mahaska, Keokuk, Wapello, Jefferson, Van Buren and Lee.